



## St Mary's Primary

### School Writhlington

Welcome to Autumn Term 2 – we have a very glittery term ahead of us!



### Topic

The topic for Autumn Term 2 is **Festivities**.

We are learning about bonfire night (we already have a bonfire planned in our conservation area!) the Hindu festival of Diwali and of course, all things Christmas (too soon?!).



### Physical Development

This term, your child is required to wear PE kits to school every Wednesday. Please make sure your child has black leggings, joggers or shorts and a P.E. top. Wellies are continued to be required at all times in school as children have access to the field in all weathers. Please put names on all sweatshirts and cardigans!

### Reading

Thank you for your support with reading at home! It is important that you listen to your child read **every day** and record this in the reading record. Please share both the 'Phonic' book, and the 'Reading for Pleasure' books. Keep reading sessions, simple, fun, and remember to talk about the pictures too! The children are making good progress with their Phonics Books. In order to help them to become more fluent, they need lots of chances to re-read these books. The books contain sounds and words that we have already learnt.

### Phonics

This Term we are learning more letter sounds (phonemes) and how to write them (graphemes). These will include **Digraphs** 2 letters that make one sound- e.g. **sh-ship** and **Trigraphs**- 3 letters that make one sound e.g. **igh- l-igh-t**. We are learning Reception Autumn 2 sounds. Attached is a printout of the sounds we are learning and advice on how to say them correctly. There is also a free video showing you how to pronounce the sounds correctly in the parents section on The Little Wandle website, which can be found here: [www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk](http://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk)

We're teaching every child to read with Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised

A complete SSP validated by the Department for Education



### Literacy

In literacy this term, we are learning and exploring the sounds of new words, the children will record themselves making firework noises, then write labels for a fantastic firework display. We will also be using the sounds that the children have learnt to write words and short sentences and captions.

The children will also participate in a range of drama activities this term, including learning and re-enacting the story of Rama and Sita when learning about Diwali and of course acting and performing in the Early Years and Key Stage 1 Nativity performance.

The children will also share special times they have experienced themselves with their friends and family. As Christmas nears (it is inevitable!), the children will write Christmas cards and post letters to Santa - we can't wait to see how much the children's writing will have progressed by then!

We will be learning lots of Christmas songs instead of nursery rhymes this term and we guarantee they will get stuck in your head!



### Mathematics

We have some exciting maths activities planned this term! The KIRF (Key Instant Recall Fact) this term is: **to be able to count up to 10 and back from 10**. If your child can already do this, we will be consolidating and challenging them so that they really master and develop a deep understanding of the numbers and how they relate to each other. Mastery activities can include: counting forwards and backwards from a given number, recognising numerals in and out of order, writing numbers, spotting missing numbers, subitising objects, ordering numbers, quickly knowing 1 more and 1 less...the list is endless! Please help your child to achieve their KIRF by practising at home!

The children will also learn about 2D shapes. We will focus on circles, triangles and rectangles, and using them to make models and paintings.

We will then move on to recognising numerals, and ensuring that children can match quantities to them correctly. We will share stories, such as Pete The Cat and His Groovy Buttons and invite children to hunt for objects that match the numerals we are learning. The children will also be learning about composition of all numbers to five this term. We can use 5s frames and part-part whole models for this. During this term, we will also take a look at addition and subtraction, always with practical and fun activities!

A HUGE thank you for all of the support with your child's learning steps at home. This impacts hugely on the progress your child can make and it is an absolute pleasure seeing how many children achieve these steps each week!

## Topic Sessions

In music this term, the children will be listening to and appraising a range of music, including Roll Alabama by Bellowhead, Boogie Wonderland by Earth Wind and Fire, Don't Go Breaking My Heart by Elton John and Kiki Dee, Ganesh is Fresh by MC Yogi, and Frosty the Snowman by Ella Fitzgerald. The children will be learning a range of Christmas songs in preparation for our nativity performance. We are teaching the children to listen attentively, move to and talk about music, express their feelings and responses, and increasingly match pitch and follow melodies of the songs they learn. This term, we are introducing outdoor learning sessions every Friday. In one of our outdoor learning sessions, we will be having a bonfire, and learning the rules about fire safety. This will build on the knowledge the pupils learnt during their time in Little Acorns, where they also spent a lot of time learning outside around the fire! It also lays the foundation for the History topic in Class 1 where they will learn about the Great Fire of London. Please ensure that your child has a pair of wellies and wet weather gear such as a puddle suit in school at all times (no umbrellas please!). In R.E. we will also be exploring 'special' places of worship, as we explore Hinduism through Diwali, the Hindu Festival of Light and Christianity through Christmas. Our focus through 'Jigsaw' (our school Personal, Social and Health Development programme) is 'Celebrating Difference'. In P.E. our focus will be on developing coordination, movement to music and dance skills in preparation for a Nativity performance – watch this space!

## Important Messages...

### November

- 8th Mufti Day: wrap-a-gift donations
- 11th Anti Bullying Week
- 12th Odd Sock day
- 12th Healthy Relationships Workshop, Year 5
- 15th Children In Need
- 29th Nasal Flu Vaccinations
- 28th School Disco– details to follow

### December

- 2nd Christmas Jumper Day – Bottle Tombola Donations
- 5th Christmas Fayre 3.15pm
- 10th Nativity 2.15pm (Reception & KS1)
- 11th Nativity 9.15am (Reception & KS1)
- 11th Christmas Dinner Day
- 18th Egg Theatre Trip (R-6)
- 19th Carol Service KS2, 9.15am
- 19th End of Term for pupils 2.30pm

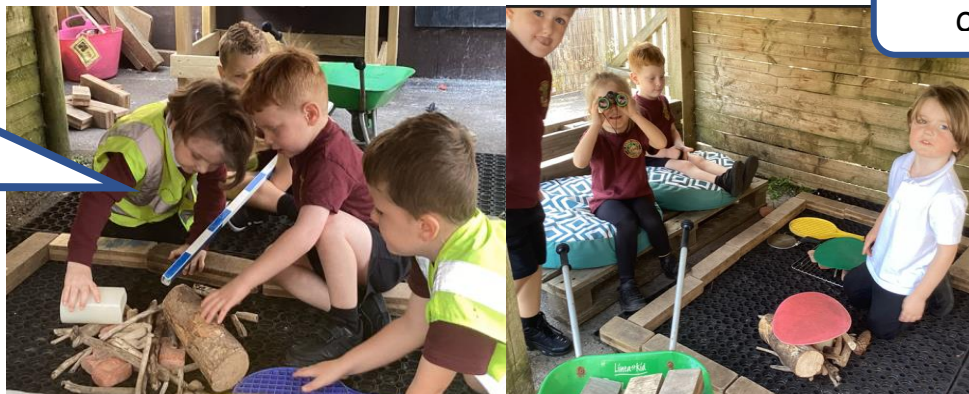
And Finally, we are working hard to develop our outside learning area. We have a list of items that would really help us to resource this. If anyone has any of the following items that we can have, we would be very grateful!

- Sturdy plastic milk crates
- An old steering wheel (x1)
- Tractor tyres (x2)
- Small glass jars with lids (for things like dried pasta and conkers!)



Please do or speak to us directly if you do have any of these items that you could donate.

Let's light the fire with the candle!



We cooked pizza over the fire!

The parent/teacher relationship is so important to the learning and development of your child and we welcome you to communicate with us either by Dojo, or during pick up/collection (mornings are usually a little busy!). You can message both teachers directly if you have any queries about your child's learning. Miss Hamblin teaches on Mondays, Mrs Martin teaches Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays and Mrs Gallimore teaches on Fridays. We also add updates and school notices on the Dojo homepage. Please direct queries about ParentPay/lunches, towards the school office – Mrs Fenton is an expert!

We really do have the most wonderful class and we are so proud of how kind and happy they all are, and all that they have achieved so far.

Thank you for your continued support,  
The Little Oaks Team ☺